

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. NO.: 2558-01
BILL NO.: HB 1098
SUBJECT: Allows Alimony to be Terminated Based on Cohabitation
TYPE: Original
DATE: December 21, 1999

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003
None			
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003
None			
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003
Local Government	\$0	\$0	\$0

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.
This fiscal note contains 3 pages.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

Officials from the **Office of State Courts Administrator** assume that this proposal will not fiscally affect their agency.

Officials from the **Department of Social Services (DOSS)** stated that they have no data on the subject of cohabitation. If it is assumed that child support would not be changed by the court and only payments to the spouse for "alimony", the loss of the alimony might qualify the family for benefits if they are otherwise eligible. While this is possible, the number of potentially eligible families is unknown, and would in fact be dependent on the courts finding of continuing cohabitation as defined in the act and a further order terminating the periodic payments to the spouse. Therefore, the DOSS cannot estimate the cost or savings resulting from enactment of this proposal.

Oversight assumes that any change in child support payments or change in status from a non-assistance family to a family that would now be eligible for cash assistance would be an **indirect** effect from enactment of this proposal. Therefore, Oversight has not shown a cost or savings relating to this proposal.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2001 (10 Mo.)	FY 2002	FY 2003
	\$0	\$0	\$0
<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2001 (10 Mo.)	FY 2002	FY 2003
	\$0	\$0	\$0
<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business</u>			

No direct fiscal impact to small businesses would be expected as a result of this proposal.

DESCRIPTION

This proposal eliminates an ex-spouse's obligation to pay maintenance if a court finds that the spouse receiving maintenance has been continuously cohabiting with another person as sex partners for at least 24 months.

This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

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SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Office of State Courts Administrator
Department of Social Services

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeanne Jarrett". The signature is stylized with a large initial "J" and a cursive script.

Jeanne Jarrett, CPA
Director
December 21, 1999